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South Korea: Avian Influenza Update:

Highly pathogenic avian influenza, first detected in South Korea in December, marks the country's first outbreak with the disease. It was first reported at a farm located 50 miles south of Seoul and has now spread beyond the quarantined area, 2.5 to 6 mile radius of the first farm, infecting a confirmed 14 farms with 18 more being investigated. Nearly a million birds of the country's 100 million chickens and 8 million ducks are to be slaughtered. In addition, the bird flu is suspected to have infected a quail farm in Naju, South Cholla Province. In response, South Korea is taking precautionary measures such as the monitoring of hatcheries, slaughterhouses, and migratory birds; disinfection of farms; and restrictions on the transporting of birds. The ministry also recently purchased 2.5 million chickens and 150,000 ducks after prices plunged 30% (693 won/kg or \$.581/kg.)

South Korea currently has approximately 115 million poultry and produced about 530,000 and 450,000 metric tons of poultry eggs and meat respectively in 2002. South Korea is a minor player in total world stocks and production accounting for less than .1% of both stocks and production. The country mainly produces for local consumption with few exports. Its few modest exports to Japan, China, and Hong Kong have been stopped. Exports of live poultry, poultry meat, and liquid eggs (dried) valued at about \$4.8 million in 2001 (less than .1% of total world exports.)

Source: USDA APHIS & other sources

Table 1: Poultry Stocks and Production, South Korea 2001 and 2002

	2001	2002	% of World Stocks or Production
	Stocks or Production	Stocks or Production	
1,000 Head			
Chickens	102,393	107,000	<0.1%
Ducks	6,716	8,000	<0.1%
Geese	13	13	<0.1%
Metric Tons			
Poultry Eggs	545,000	533,500	<0.1%
Poultry Meat	433,175	451,032	<0.1%

Source: USDA APHIS

Table 2: Exports of live poultry and poultry products, South Korea, 2001

Exports	2001		% of World in 2001	
	Quantity	Value (1000 \$)	Quantity	Value
Live chickens (1,000 head)	174	268	<0.1%	<0.1%
Poultry eggs liquid, dried (mt)	34	77	<0.1%	<0.1%
Poultry meat (mt)	2,295	4,452	<0.1%	<0.1%

Source: USDA APHIS

Thai Duck Meat Exports on the Rise:

Thailand could take the hot seat regarding duck meat production and exports, as they are predicted to surpass 2003's exports by 8% or 12,000 tons. Production for 2003 is estimated at 111,000 tons, up from 108,000 tons in the previous year, of which 12,000 tons are exported and 97,000 tons are consumed locally.

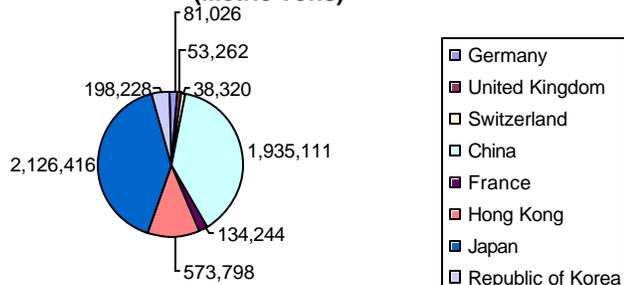
Of the world's 3,300 metric tons (MT) of duck meat production, Thailand ranks third (3.36%) behind China (66.67%) and France (7.15%), but ahead of Vietnam, US, South Korea, Malaysia, UK, Germany, and Hungary. In comparison to world regarding duck meat exports, Thailand ranks fourth (9.6%) behind China (20.8%), Hungary (20.8%), and France (12%) in exports.

The forecasted rise in Thai exports comes from increased demand from Europe, Japan, and China. European countries such as Germany, the Netherlands, Britain, and Belgium have upped their orders as consumers still worry over mad cow disease. Japan has placed more orders in light of China's bouts with the bird-flu and the SARS epidemic. As for China, the number one consumer, producer, and exporter, as well as a major importer of duck meat, it is suffering from reduced exports and rising imports, as hygiene fears escalate.

In 1992, Thailand introduced, further processed duck meat, which totaled 2,189 MT, while frozen duck meat exports amounted to 8.934 MT in 2002. It is projected further processed duck meat will increase 53% to 4,000 MT, while frozen duck meat exports will drop 67% to 8,000 MT for 2003. Asian countries such as Japan, Singapore, China, Hong Kong, South Korea, and Malaysia are largest importers of frozen duck meat. In comparison, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, France, UK, and Belgium prefer the further processed duck meat.

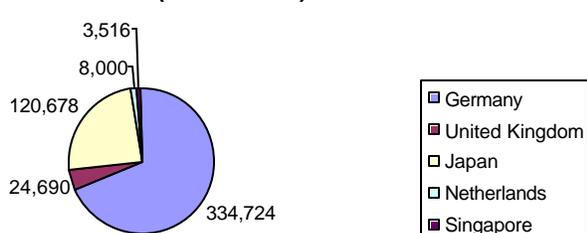
Source: World Poultry & other sources

Thailand Exports: Frozen Duck Meat Parts (Metric Tons)



Source: Thailand Customs Department

Thailand Frozen Whole Duck Meat Exports (Metric Tons)



Source: Thailand Customs Department

NOTICE: Inspected Egg Products - U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade & Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Inspection Reports
 will not be released due to Holiday observances in Canada. We do not currently anticipate releasing the data for week ending Dec. 20
 until the week of Jan. 5, 2004.

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

26-DEC-2003				
CHICKEN				
PRICES (Cents per Pound)				
FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED

26-DEC-2003				
CHICKEN				
PRICES (Cents per Pound)				
FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	15.00	81,600	-
WTD AVERAGE		15.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	14.00-17.00	10.00-15.00	870,000	483,200
WTD AVERAGE	15.17	12.92		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE		-	-	--
WTD AVERAGE				

* INCLUDES THE STATES OF AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

26-DEC-2003				
CHICKEN				
PRICES (Cents per Pound)				
FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED

26-DEC-2003				
CHICKEN				
PRICES (Cents per Pound)				
FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	15.50	15.00	332,000	320,000
WTD AVERAGE	15.50	15.00		
15-20%				
RANGE	15.50-19.00	11.50-14.00	1,020,000	364,000
WTD AVERAGE	18.00	13.12		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

* INCLUDES THE STATES OF CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV, WY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

NATIONAL YOUNG TURKEY PARTS AND BULK MEAT, FROZEN (UNLESS SPECIFIED), CENTS PER LB., DELIVERED FIRST RECEIVERS, PART AND FULL TRUCKLOTS AS OF 24 DECEMBER 2003.

The market was seasonally slow on most items. Trading centered on a fair volume of frozen destrapped tenderloins for current shipments, balance extremely light. Offerings available.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25 & FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2003 - NO EXPORT REPORTING DUE TO CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAYS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2003

EXPORT TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOLUME (000)	WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICE	WEEKLY VOLUME (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	42.00		42.00	92	41.07	172
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS						
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM						
TAILS						
MECHANICALLY SEPARATED 4/	15.00		15.00	40	16.32	653
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		T	78.50	79	78.50	79

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2002

EXPORT TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOL. (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS	40.00		40.00	80
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECH. SEPARATED 2/	15.00-16.50		16.40	613
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN	78.50		78.50	79

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2002

EXPORT TRADING	PRICE RANGE	L.S.T. CODE 1/	WTD AVG PRICE	VOL. (000)
DRUMSTICKS, TOMS		F	41.10	200
WINGS FULL-CUT - TOMS				
WINGS, V-TYPE, TOM				
TAILS				
MECH. SEPARATED 4/		F	16.00	80
THIGH MEAT - FROZEN		F	85.33	120

1/ CODES FOR LAST SIGNIFICANT TRADE (L.S.T.): M=MONDAY T=TUESDAY W=WEDNESDAY R=THURSDAY F=FRIDAY

2/ Product contains 15-20% fat with skin added.